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02-277

Ann Theresa Mahoney

April 14, 2003

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Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
Via facsimile: (202) 418-0232

APR 30 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell:

I'm very concerned about the proposed FCC overhauling of the current media ownership restrictions. The argument you've made to justify the rule changes is that the current restrictions hurt business.

Since the airwaves are owned by the public, the business of the media should be primarily public interest, not profit. The existing rules preserve our democracy by helping to ensure a diversity of voices and viewpoints. If anything, these restrictions should be strengthened, not weakened. Democracy is eroded when the media is controlled by a handful of corporations. These corporations should not be allowed to consolidate even more than they already have and thereby further diminish the breadth and quality of public discourse.

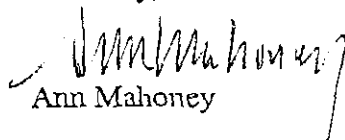
If the media corporations want to increase their already immense profits, they should cut down on operating expenses (i.e. inflated executive salaries and bonuses) as other business have to do, rather than trying to get rid of industry regulations and buying up their competition.

It is especially critical that we have more public hearings on the proposed rule changes given that this important issue is not getting much coverage in the media. Why would these corporations want to publicize this issue when they stand to gain from the FCC's proposed rule changes? Clearly, there is a conflict of interest here.

When the public interest is at odds with the profit-making of the media corporations, the public interest should be considered paramount. Please consider that caving in to the media's business interests is not in the best interest of the general public.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


Ann Mahoney

APR 20 2003

Distribution Center

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Federal Communications Commission
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ATTN: Mr Kevin Martin ✓

4/17/03

Thanks for your PRO-FAMILY positions!!!

Sincerely,

*SAVE OUR FAMILY
TV!*

